

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 IO-10

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 /070 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:TEDEAL

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

EUR/SOV:JMONTGOMERY

EUR/RPM:DKINNEY

EUR/CE:JKORNBLUM

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R 212041Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250032

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MPOL, XT, XH, UR

SUBJECT: NAVAL EXERCISE IN BALTIC

1. DEFENSE HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT USCINCEUR WILL
CONDUCT A MULTILATERAL OPERATION IN THE STRAITS OF
SKAGERRAK AND KATTEGAT AND IN THE BALTIC DURING THE PERIOD
OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 4.

2. DETAILS FOLLOW BELOW FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION.

3. OBJECTIVE OF EXERCISE IS TO CONTINUE A POLICY OF
PERIODIC US NAVY OPERATIONS IN THE BALTIC SEA AND ITS
APPROACHES IN EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF FREE PASSAGE
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THROUGH INTERNATIONAL STRAITS, AND TO DEMONSTRATE

CONTINUED US INTEREST IN THE SECURITY OF NORTHERN EUROPE. (TOWARD THESE PURPOSES, AND IN ORDER TO INCREASE MUTUAL LEVELS OF READINESS) INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO NORTHERN EUROPEAN NAVIES TO PARTICIPATE IN EXERCISES WITH US NAVAL UNITS DURING THE PERIOD. THE FRG AND DENMARK HAVE ACCEPTED AND WILL PARTICIPATE DURING PART OF THE EXERCISE.

4. THE AREAS OF OPERATION INCLUDE ZONE ALPHA, IN THE STRAIT OF SKAGERRAK, BETWEEN DENMARK AND NORWAY, ZONE BRAVO, IN THE BALTIC EAST OF BORNHOLM ISLAND, AND THE TRACK BETWEEN THE TWO ZONES.

5. US NAVAL UNITS PARTICIPATING IN THE OPERATION WILL BE: USS RICHMOND K. TURNER, USS BOWEN, USS FORREST SHERMAN, AND USS KALAMAZOO.

6. THE OPERATION WILL BE CONDUCTED IN FOUR PHASES:

A. PHASE I, 27-28 OCTOBER: UNITS OF THE US NAVY/AIR FORCE, ROYAL DANISH NAVY/AIR FORCE AND FRG NAVY (FRGN) CONDUCT MULTILATERAL ANTI-AIR WARFARE(AAW), ANTI-SUBMARINE WAR FARE (ASW), ELECTRONIC WARFARE JAMMING/CHAFF EXERCISES AND FUELING-AT-SEA OPERATIONS. ALL OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS. PHASE ONE ASW OPERATIONS SHALL BE CONDUCTED WITHIN ZONE ALPHA.

B. PHASE II, 28-29 OCTOBER: TASK GROUP TRANSITS THE GREAT BELT AND PROCEEDS TO THE WESTERN EXTREME OF ZONE BRAVO. CONDUCT ANTI-FAST PATROL BOAT OPERATIONS NORTH OF 55 DEGREE NORTH WITH UNITS OF THE FRGN. THEREAFTER, IT WILL PROCEED TO THE VICINITY OF BORNHOLM GATT, CONDUCTING AAW EXERCISES ENROUTE. CONDUCT AN OPPOSED TRANSIT OF BORNHOLM GATT EASTWARD USING THE SERVICES OF FRGN SUBMARINE, MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT AND FIGHTER BOMBERS. CONDUCT AN ASW EXERCISE WITH A FRGN SUBMARINE EAST OF BORNHOLM ISLAND.

C. PHASE III, 30 OCTOBER: TRANSIT TO THE EASTERN SECTOR OF ZONE BRAVO USING THE SERVICES OF FRGN MARITIME PATROL
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AIRCRAFT FOR MARITIME SURVEILLANCE. CONDUCT REFUELING OPERATIONS AS REQUIRED. RETURN TO THE WESTERN SECTOR OF ZONE BRAVO TO COMMENCE ANTI-FPB OPERATIONS WITH WEST GERMAN NAVY.

D. PHASE IV, 31 OCTOBER - 4 NOVEMBER: SHIPS TRANSIT TO PORTS AS FOLLOWS: 1) USS F. SHERMAN TO MALMO, SWEDEN; 2) USS BOWEN TO COPENHAGEN, DENMARK; 3) USS R. K. TURNER/

USS KALAMAZOO TO KIEL, GERMANY. SHIPS WILL CONDUCT ROUTINE PORT VISITS BETWEEN 31 OCTOBER AND 3 NOVEMBER. UPON COMPLETION OF PORT VISITS, TASK GROUP WILL TRANSIT VIA AKAGERRAK, CONDUCTING ELECTRONIC WARFARE AND AAW EXERCISES WITH DANISH UNITS WHILE ENROUTE. AT 040800Z NOVEMBER US NAVAL UNITS WILL RETURN TO CINCLANTFLT OPERATIONAL CONTROL.

7. ALL SHIPS' NAVIGATIONAL MOVEMENTS WILL BE OUTSIDE OF TERRITORIAL WATERS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TRANSITS THROUGH THE BELT/SOUND. TRANSITS THROUGH THE BELT/SOUND WILL BE CLEARED WITH THE DANISH GOVERNMENT BY CINCUSNAVEUR. SHIPS WILL REMAIN AT LEAST 15 NAUTICAL MILES FROM WARSAW PACT/SOVIET COASTS DURING TRANSITS INTO AND FROM THE BALTIC AND 25 NAUTICAL MILES FROM WARSAW PACT/SOVIET COASTS DURING OPERATIONS IN THE BALTIC. OPERATIONS DURING PHASE TWO AND THREE WILL BE CONDUCTED WITHIN ZONE BRAVO (LESS BORNHOLM ISLAND AND DANISH TERRITORIAL WATERS). GUNNERY FIRING EXERCISES SHALL NOT REPEAT NOT BE CONDUCTED WITHIN THE BALTIC SEA. FULL PERIOD COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE MAINTAINED WITH NAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY AND NAVSECGRUACT EDZELL. NO HELICOPTERS WILL BE EMBARKED IN US NAVAL SHIPS. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INNOCENT PASSAGE, MILITARY POLICIES, NAVAL EXERCISES, STRAITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE250032
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TEDEAL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750366-1252
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751036/aaaabgav.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAVAL EXERCISE IN BALTIC
TAGS: MPOL, XT, XH, UR
To: WARSAW BERLIN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006